

Chapter 5.10

AUTOMATIC DRY CLEANERS

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5.10.010 Compliance with Chapter.

It shall be unlawful to install, operate, or maintain any automatic dry-cleaning machine or dry cleaner as hereinafter defined except in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 15457 §1; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.010; Ord. 7715 §1; May 1, 1962).

5.10.020 Definitions.

An automatic dry-cleaning machine or dry cleaner, as the terms are used herein, shall be construed to include and mean any device or apparatus for the cleaning of clothes or fabrics, and designed to make use of perchlorethylene or any other similar chemical solvent or substance which may cause harm to human beings by reason of inhalation or contact.

A unit machine or cell, as used herein, shall be construed to mean one machine.

Director of Health shall mean the principal executive of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department or a duly authorized agent.

Maintenance room, as used herein, shall be construed to mean the enclosure immediately in rear of the machine where the mechanical appurtenances are operated.

Maximum allowable concentration shall refer to a standard established by or accepted by the Nebraska State Health Department. (Ord. 15457 §2; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.020: Ord. 7715 §2; May 1, 1962).

5.10.030 Permits.

Permits shall be required to install and operate automatic dry-cleaning machines as follows:

(a) **Installation permit.**

(1) It shall be unlawful to install or make subsequent structural, equipment, or operational changes in any automatic dry-cleaning machine or establishment without first having secured an installation permit therefor from or with the approval of the Director of Health.

(2) Application for such permit shall be in duplicate copies and contain complete information as to the location of the establishment, the name and address of the applicant, the mechanical equipment of such machine or machines, the building or structure to house the machine and all the appurtenances as required by this chapter. The application shall be accompanied by duplicate sets of plans and specifications accurately and completely describing the proposed facility.

(3) The fee for such installation permit shall be twenty-five dollars for each unit or machine.

(4) Installation permits shall not be transferable as to location.

(b) **Operation permit.**

(1) It shall be unlawful to engage in the business of operating or maintaining such machine or machines for use by the public without first having secured an operation permit therefor from or with the approval of the Director of Health. Conditions for approval will be based on compliance with all the provisions of this chapter and a determination by the Director of Health that all reasonable precautions are taken to protect the health and safety of the public.

(2) Application for such operation permit shall be in duplicate and on forms provided by the Director of Health.

(3) The annual fee for such operation permit shall be twenty-five dollars, plus five dollars for each dry cleaner (unit machine or cell) in addition to the first five dry cleaners maintained in any one establishment. All such permits shall expire on the thirty-first day of May following the date of issuance thereof.

(4) Operation permits shall not be transferable as to location or person. (Ord. 15457 §3; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.030: Ord. 7715 §3; May 1, 1962).

5.10.040 Dry Cleaner Ventilation.

Each dry cleaner or battery of two or more dry cleaners shall be provided with an independent ventilation system which will safely exhaust sufficient air from the dry cleaner interior so as to maintain a minimum air flow of 100 lineal feet per minute face velocity, entering flow, through the loading door whenever the door is open. The duct or discharge stack for this ventilation system shall extend at least five feet above the building roof high point, and shall terminate so as to prevent affluent air from gaining entrance into adjacent buildings, or otherwise so as not to create a health hazard or nuisance; generally, the top of the stack should be above and at least fifty feet from any adjacent building openings accommodating fresh air intake. All ventilation ducts shall be of vapor-proof construction. (Ord. 15457 §4; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.040: Ord. 7715 §4; May 1, 1962).

5.10.050 Room or Space Ventilation.

(a) Space ventilation shall be provided whereby air will be exhausted from the maintenance room to the outside atmosphere so as to maintain a minimum air flow rate from the customer area through the partition, separating it from the maintenance room, as follows:

<u>No. of Dry Cleaners</u>	<u>Min. Air Flow Rate (cfm)/Machine</u>
1-3	250
4-8	200
9-16	150
17 or more	100

(b) Where grille openings are to be installed in the partition to facilitate air movement, they shall be sized on the basis of 500 cubic feet per min. for each square foot of net grille area and shall be placed as close to the machine as possible.

(c) A supply of fresh make-up air equal to or greater than the total volume of air exhausted from the establishment shall be provided so as to eliminate any negative pressures which might otherwise develop within the customer area.

(d) The space ventilation as described above shall be provided on a continuous basis while the establishment is open for business,

(e) The point of discharge for space ventilation shall meet the same requirements as given for dry cleaner ventilation. (Ord. 15457 §5; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.050: Ord. 7715 §5; May 1, 1962).

5.10.060 Separation of Customer Area From Maintenance Area.

Only the front or customer side of the dry cleaner shall be exposed in the customer area; customers shall have access only to the front side of the dry cleaners; they shall not be permitted in the working or maintenance room. The working or maintenance portion of the dry cleaners and auxiliary equipment shall be separated from the customer area by a generally solid partition. Access doors to the maintenance room shall be kept locked at any time the establishment is open to the public. The partition shall completely separate the customer area from the maintenance room except for the openings to permit controlled ventilation or air movement from the customer area through the partition to the maintenance room. (Ord. 15457 §6; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.060: Ord. 7715 §6; May 1, 1962).

5.10.070 Floor Diking and Dike Tank.

A means of preventing cleaning liquid leaks from escaping the machine or its enclosure shall be provided. This shall include some method of diking the floor of the enclosure or machine base to impound a liquid volume equal to the solvent capacity of the system. Some means shall be provided for safely removing the solvent from this sump in the event of a leak. This may be accomplished by gravity flow to a standby holding tank; this tank shall be vented to the outside. Notwithstanding the provision for localized containment of liquids from accidental leaks, bulk solvent storage and the recirculation system shall be so designed as to reasonably preclude any leakage and uncontrolled exposure to the room atmosphere. (Ord. 15457 §7; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.070: Ord. 7715 §7; May 1, 1962).

5.10.080 Floors, Walls, and Ceilings.

Floors, walls, and ceilings shall be constructed so as to be easily cleaned. Floors shall be constructed of a material which is reasonably resistant to solvent absorption or retention. (Ord. 15457 §8; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.080; Ord. 7715 §8; May 1, 1962).

5.10.090 Lighting.

All areas in which any of the dry cleaning processes are conducted shall be provided with at least ten foot-candles of light intensity at a plane three feet above the floor. (Ord. 15457 §9; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.090; Ord. 7715 §9; May 1, 1962).

5.10.100 Space Heating.

Space heating of the establishment shall comply with the applicable sections of the Lincoln Municipal Code regulating the safety of space heating in buildings open to the general public; except that the installation of recirculation type heating systems is prohibited in establishments regulated by this chapter, unless adequate provisions are made for protection against build-up of solvent fumes. (Ord. 15457 §10; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.100; Ord. 7715 §10; May 1, 1962).

5.10.110 Toilet Facilities.

Access to approved sanitary toilet facilities shall be provided by all self-service dry cleaning establishments; in all such establishments constructed hereafter, the approved sanitary toilet facilities shall be provided within the structure housing the self-service dry cleaning establishment and with direct access to the customer area. (Ord. 15457 §11; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.110; Ord. 7715 §11; May 1, 1962).

5.10.120 Lavatory Facilities.

Lavatory facilities, including running water, soap, and sanitary towels should be provided accessible to the public in the customer area, and shall be provided in the immediate vicinity of all toilet facilities. (Ord. 15457 §12; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.120; Ord. 7715 §12; May 1, 1962).

5.10.130 Use of Building for Other Purposes.

Coin-operated dry cleaners should not be established in multi-story buildings, nor in a building occupied in part as a dwelling, unless there is provision made for complete and safe separation of the dry cleaner operations from other occupancy uses. (Ord. 15457 §13; March 5, 1990; P.C. §5.56.130; Ord. 7715 §13; May 1, 1962).

5.10.140 Equipment Specifications.

All automatic dry-cleaning machines shall meet the following specifications:

(a) Each machine must be constructed and installed so as to reasonably prevent the leakage of liquids, gases, and vapors from the materials being dry-cleaned at the conclusion of the dry-cleaning cycle.

(b) The drying and aeration cycles of the machine shall be controlled by thermostats, timers, or other dependable devices so as to preclude the removal of vapor-laden garments by the customer. Each machine should be equipped with a transparent door or port to allow visual examination of the status of the cleaning cycle.

(c) The access door of each machine or cell shall be equipped with an interlock so that the door cannot be opened by the customer until the cleaning and drying cycle is completed. The interlock shall be so connected that in the event of a power failure the machine will fail safe.

(d) An interlock shall be provided which will cause the machine to be inoperative in the event of failure in the ventilation system.

(e) There shall be no direct connection between the public water system and the machine, or between the machine waste discharge system and the public sewer system.

(f) No machine with loading ports of a diameter greater than approximately twelve inches shall be installed subsequent to the effective date of this chapter, which is not capable of having its door opened from the interior thereof upon the application of manual outward pressure against it. (Ord. 15457 §14; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.140: Ord. 7715 §14; May 1, 1962).

5.10.150 Solvent Specifications.

No solvent other than water may be used or provided in any self-service dry-cleaning establishment except within a dry-cleaning device or machine, unless the same is within the control of an attendant; and no such solvent shall be flammable nor of a type other than that specified by the manufacturers thereof, or have an established maximum average concentration of less than 100 parts solvent vapor per million parts air for eight hours of human exposure thereto. (Ord. 15457 §15; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.150: Ord. 7715 §15; May 1, 1962).

5.10.160 Operation Regulations.

No such automatic dry-cleaning machine shall be operated unless all the requirements of the preceding sections (Section 5.10.040 through Section 5.10.150) have been satisfied and unless the machine or machines and all the auxiliary equipment are in proper operating conditions.

(a) Any residue containing solvent shall be temporarily stored in tightly covered metal containers pending removal from the premises. Such containers shall bear labels indicating the contents and any dangers in handling, and shall be kept inaccessible to the customers.

(b) At least one legible sign shall be maintained in the customer area, giving the name, address, and phone number of the owner, operator or manager of the establishment, and of the service individual, department, or agency responsible for the maintenance of the machines and accessories.

(c) A step-by-step operation instruction sheet or plate shall be posted convenient to the customers and in close proximity to the dry cleaners.

(d) Every automatic dry-cleaning establishment shall at all times be kept in good repair and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition as to floors, walls, ceilings, windows, machines, fixtures, and equipment; refuse receptacles shall be provided in the customer area. (Ord. 15457 §16; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.160: Ord. 7715 §16; May 1, 1962).

5.10.170 Inspections.

It shall be the duty of the Director of Health to cause such inspections to be made as are necessary to carry out the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 15457 §17; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.170: Ord. 7715 §17; May 1, 1962).

5.10.180 Penalty for Violations.

Any person, firm, or corporation violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than five dollars nor more than \$100.00, and costs of prosecution for each offense. Each day's violation hereof shall constitute a separate and distinct offense and shall be punishable as such. (Ord. 15457 §18; March 5, 1990: P.C. §5.56.180: Ord. 7715 §18; May 1, 1962).